



MARSHAL MATTERS

AUGUST 2021 EDITION



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Marshal's Minute-State Fire Marshal Matt Perez



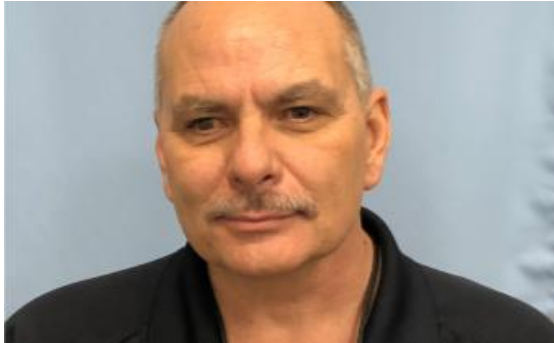
The Illinois State Fair is in the books for 2021 and it was great to be back in person helping share the fire safety message with fairgoers. A big shout out to the Illinois Department of Agriculture for hosting a successful and safe fair. I want to personally thank the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts, Illinois Professional Firefighters Association, International Association of Arson Investigators Illinois Chapter, Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, MABAS, Chicago Fire Department, Illinois Fire Service Institute, Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors, Associated Fire Fighters Association, Illinois Fire Inspectors Association and the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts, along with the staff from our agency for making the fire safety tent a success again this year. We have faced numerous challenges during the pandemic, and still do, but once again we have come together and proved that our One Team One Fight slogan always rings true amongst the member of the Illinois Fire Service!

The Small Equipment Grant Program application period has opened again this fall. I highly encourage all departments, districts and EMS providers that are eligible, to apply. This program was established to provide grants of up to \$26,000 for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment. This is an innovative approach to a problem that has long caused difficulties for the fire departments and not-for-profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those that have hardships in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The purpose is to allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small equipment that they may otherwise not be able to purchase.

The OSFM understands that budgets are tighter, and we continue to work hard to help find funding for the Illinois fire service community. Visit our website www.sfm.illinois.gov and click on the link to the Small Equipment Grant Program, located in the current focus section. Applications must be postmarked by October 23rd. There is 2.5 million dollars available during this grant cycle.

Registration is now open for the State of Illinois Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Conference that will be held on October 22nd at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. The day will feature national and state CRR updates, along with resources to successfully move forward with helping create a CRR plan for your department and community. The OSFM is proud to work with the Chicago Fire Department and the State of Illinois CRR taskforce to provide this day of education which will help departments and communities from all over the state to identify ways they can implement CRR to help make their communities a safer place for residents to live and work.

Employee Spotlight



Robert Beal

Fire Certification Specialist

Where are you originally from? Bonnie, IL

Tell us about your family? My wife Ruthie is a retired Postmaster. Our daughter Sara is a CPA in Nashville, TN and our son Paul has worked for 13 years at Continental Tire in Mt. Vernon, IL.

Favorite food(s) Anything Cajun, and steak

Hobbies? woodworking

What's your favorite movie or book? Killing the Rising Sun

When you get in the car what type of music will be coming out of your speakers? Definitely country!

What did you want to be when you were a kid? Police officer

Where is your bucket list job title? Retire as fire chief. And I did it! Now I am enjoying my work with OSFM and hope to a long time.

What's your favorite part of the job? Assisting fire departments and interacting with their personnel and the public.

What's something unique about you? I delivered 3 babies during my career. It was a blessing to bring life into the world, as opposed to some of the tragedy firefighters see.

Where is your favorite place to vacation? Louisiana - I like to eat my favorite foods!

Small Equipment Grant Program



The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has opened the application period for the Small Equipment Grant Program. All interested departments should send an application to the OSFM, applications must be postmarked no later than October 22, 2021. OSFM will award \$2.5 million to eligible fire departments and ambulance services during this application period.

The Small Equipment Grant Program was established to provide grants of up to \$26,000 for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment. A total of \$3.3 million was awarded to 149 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state in June.

Fire department, fire protection districts and township fire department applicants are required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying. The OSFM will require departments to be current through June 2021 for this grant period.

Click the links below for information about the grant program and the grant application:

[Small Equipment Grant Information](#)

[Small Equipment Grant Application](#)



Firefighting Foam & PFAS Factsheet

State of Illinois
Office of the State Fire Marshal
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency



Fact Sheet: Firefighting Foam and PFAS

The Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency would like to provide fire authorities with information about an environmental issue – PFAS in AFFF – that may be placing Illinois firefighters and communities at risk. This information also identifies new statutory requirements specific to Class B firefighting foam.

Why do we keep hearing that firefighting foam is bad?

Class-B firefighting foam, Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF), contains Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), a group of chemical compounds that has been associated with serious environmental and human health hazards.

Health impact studies are being conducted to further identify and understand risks associated with exposure to various PFAS substances. Thus far, such studies suggest exposure to PFAS (especially through ingestion) may increase the prevalence of certain cancers, including prostate and testicular cancers, as well as cause damage to the liver, kidneys, and other organs. PFAS exposure may also result in developmental effects in fetuses and infants. PFAS are extremely persistent in the environment, called “forever chemicals,” and are bioaccumulative, meaning they build up in the body over time.

The use of AFFF near well fields or surface water bodies also has the potential to contaminate a community drinking water supply. Released into a waterway, AFFF may cause serious injury to wildlife.

Class A foam and many other products designed to be used on flammable liquid incidents do not contain PFAS and are not part of this discussion.

Does it matter what year AFFF is manufactured?

Yes. While risks exist with all AFFF-type foams, those manufactured before 2003 were made with more toxic PFAS chemicals known as PFOA and PFOS. Other legacy foams, including those made until 2016, can degrade in the environment to PFOA.

The State of Michigan has published a guide to help determine if a firefighting foam contains PFAS: <https://bit.ly/3ehWILm>

Is the use of AFFF banned in Illinois?

No. The use of firefighting foam is not banned in Illinois.

Fire Departments are advised to conduct a risk-benefit analysis prior to any planned use of AFFF during an actual emergency involving flammable liquids. If the fire can be controlled with water, Class A foam, or other available fire suppression solutions, those tactics should be considered first. The use of foam containing PFAS for an emergency incident is always allowed.

August 2021

Firefighting Foam & PFAS Factsheet

State of Illinois
Office of the State Fire Marshal
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

If we use AFFF, do we need to take any additional steps?

Fire Departments are advised to adopt the following best practices – which are not legal requirements – to reduce PFAS contamination in their communities:

- Use the minimum amount of AFFF needed;
- Control runoff into waterways;
- Contain runoff to as limited an area as possible; and
- If product enters the sewer system, notify the local water treatment agency.

Can we use AFFF for training?

Yes, though using AFFF for training is strongly discouraged for several reasons:

- Repeated personal exposure to AFFF may increase a firefighter's risk of health impacts, including cancer.
- Repeated application of AFFF to a training site has been shown to contaminate soil and groundwater.
- Use of AFFF near wells or surface water bodies could contaminate a drinking water supply.

It is also recommended that Fire Departments make their firefighters aware of the dangers detailed above and track any exposure during training or at emergency scenes.

See the note below regarding PA 102-0290 for new requirements effective January 1, 2022.

Are alternatives to AFFF available?

Yes, depending on your needs. Foam containing PFAS remains a requirement for certain agencies, particularly those serving airports and some military facilities. Fire Departments are encouraged to consider alternative suppression agents that will meet their specific needs.

How do I dispose of PFAS-containing foam that I have?

AFFF disposal is difficult at this time as U.S. EPA has issued only interim guidance for treatment and disposal of PFAS-containing materials and made no specific recommendations for AFFF.

At present, solid waste landfills are allowed to accept AFFF, but may choose not to. Contact a waste disposal contractor to determine what specific options are available to you based on your location.

Unused or unwanted foam should never be dumped or allowed to leak into the ground. Proper disposal does not include flushing, draining, or otherwise discharging any firefighting foam into a ditch, waterway, storm drain, or sanitary sewer.

New Law

[Public Act 102-0290](#) was signed into law on August 6, 2021. The following requirements will apply:

Beginning January 1, 2022, any person, unit of local government, fire department, or State agency that discharges or releases Class B firefighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS chemicals must notify the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) within 48 hours of AFFF discharge or release, including use at an emergency incident. The notification must include:

Firefighting Foam & PFAS Factsheet

State of Illinois
Office of the State Fire Marshal
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

New Law Continued:

1. The time, date, location, and estimated amount of Class B firefighting foam discharged or released into the environment;
2. The purpose or reason of the discharge or release into the environment;
3. The containment, treatment, and disposal measures to be taken or used to prevent or minimize the discharge or release of the Class B firefighting foam into the environment; and
4. The name of the person, unit of local government, fire department, or State agency, the local incident number, and the Fire Department Identification (FDID) number, if applicable.

To report to IEMA, call 1-800-782-7860.

Beginning January 1, 2022, AFFF may not be used by a person, local government, fire department, or State Agency for training or testing purposes unless the fire authority has performed all of the following:

1. Evaluated the testing facility for containment, treatment, and disposal measures to prevent uncontrolled release of Class B firefighting foam to the environment;
2. Notified IEMA of the AFFF discharge or release within 48 hours; and
3. Provided training to employees of the possible hazards, protective actions, and a disposal plan.

Flushing, draining, or otherwise discharging the foam into a storm drain or sanitary sewer is not an appropriate containment, treatment, and disposal or storage measure.

Class B firefighting foam containing PFAS must be properly disposed of within 90 days of the expiration date provided by the manufacturer.

On and after January 1, 2022, manufacturers, including distributors, must notify fire departments prior to the fire department's purchase of Class B foam containing PFAS clearly indicating that:

1. The product contains PFAS that may be hazardous to health or the environment;
2. The use of the product is regulated and restricted under this Act; and
3. Other Class B firefighting foam options may be available for purchase.

On or before January 1, 2022, and on or before January 1 of each of the 5 years thereafter, OSFM must conduct a survey of fire departments to determine:

1. Each fire department's name, Fire Department Identification (FDID) number, if applicable, and address;
2. The amount, type, and date of manufacture and the expiration date of any Class B firefighting foam containing PFAS that each fire department possesses;
3. How, where, and when each fire department has used Class B firefighting foam containing PFAS within the previous 12 months, the NFIRS incident number, and, if reported to IEMA, the report number provided by IEMA; and
4. How much, if any, Class B firefighting foam containing PFAS the fire department has disposed of, and the method of disposal, during the reporting period.

Beginning no later than January 1, 2023 and for a period of no less than 2 years, Illinois EPA must post on its website information regarding the proper methods for disposing of Class B firefighting foam containing PFAS.

Firefighting Foam & PFAS Factsheet

State of Illinois
Office of the State Fire Marshal
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Other Recommended Actions

Fire Departments should ensure that their firefighters are aware of the health risks related to AFFF exposure. In addition to this document, the resources identified below should be of assistance in understanding and communicating the dangers of PFAS-containing foam.

Fire Departments should document firefighter AFFF exposures from training or on emergency scenes.

For a comprehensive explanation of PFAS in firefighting foams, prepared by the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council:

<https://pfas-1.itrcweb.org/3-firefighting-foams/>

For more information about PFAS generally, prepared by Illinois EPA:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/default.aspx>

'Forever chemicals': What firefighters need to know about AFFF and PFAS, prepared by FireRescue1

<https://www.firerescue1.com/firefighting-foam/articles/forever-chemicals-what-firefighters-need-to-know-about-fff-and-pfas-8pdsKB4G2G1fJoIM/>

State of Illinois CRR Conference



SAVE THE DATE!



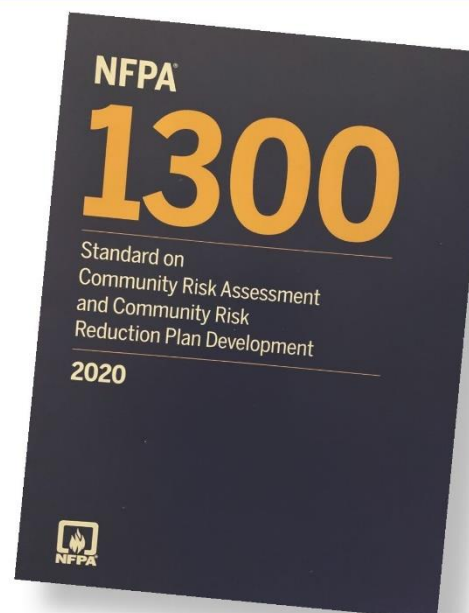
**OCTOBER 22, 2021
CROWN PLAZA HOTEL
SPRINGFIELD, IL
8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

STATE OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION CONFERENCE

This is a **Free Event**, Hosted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Chicago Fire Department with the support of the Illinois Community Risk Reduction Stakeholder Taskforce

Illinois State Fire Marshal Matt Perez and Chicago FD District Chief Walter Schroeder, in conjunction with all member organizations of the Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce, invite you to a full day of the newest national and state CRR updates and resources to successfully move forward with CRR for your department and community.

WATCH FOR DETAILS!



<https://illinoispringfieldcrr.eventbrite.com>

State of Illinois Taskforce

The Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce was formalized to support all departments across the state to understand the process, recognize the benefits to their communities, and benefit from the many resources available to them. Although the taskforce is organized through the Illinois Fire Service, other state organizations, such as the Illinois Department of Aging, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and more will be involved as experts in their respective areas of the risks facing our communities. The two-pronged mission statement focuses on promoting CRR so communities and departments can create own their own risk assessment and plan, and on providing national and state resources. We are here to assist as coaches to make the process feasible and effective for communities of all sizes and demographics.

How Can the Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce help Illinois departments?

As defined by their mission statement (Promote the importance of Risk Reduction in Illinois by inspiring community ownership and providing coordinated resources), this taskforce is committed to getting the word out across the state about the importance of risk reduction. We are dedicated to providing assistance and guidance for communities to manage their own process which will become unique to their own needs. Through the coordination of national, state, and local organizations and experts in risk reduction, the taskforce will provide the resources necessary to develop individual CRR plans.

We invite you to watch for the new Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce website that will launch on September 15. We promise that it will be a useful tool for any department interested in beginning or continuing the journey through their own CRR planning. As we continue to add to the content, you will be provided with tools and resources, current research, best practices, contacts, and announcements of classes, seminars, and training all in one easy to access place.

The taskforce is beginning work on a State Risk Assessment (SRA) which will assist in guiding our efforts to assist in mitigating the most prevalent risks for those populations at highest risk.

The most effective way for this taskforce to empower departments and their communities to create their own CRR plans is for us to learn of your concerns and your successes. We invite you to contact our organization at info@illinoisfirechiefs.org with questions, requests, and suggestions.



State of Illinois CRR Taskforce

*Interested in learning more
about keeping your community safe?*



COMING IN SEPTEMBER 2021

The Illinois
Community Risk Reduction
Task Force
is excited to launch their new website.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is a process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact.

**COMING
SOON!**

Fallen Firefighter & Medal of Honor Ceremony

SAVE the DATE

28th Annual
Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial
&
Firefighter Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony

September 10th, 2021

REMINDER: The 28th Annual Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial and Firefighter Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony will take place on Friday, September 10th. The Fallen Firefighter Memorial service will be held at the firefighter memorial on the grounds of the Illinois State Capitol beginning at 10 AM. Following the ceremony at the capitol, the Medal of Honor Ceremony will take place at the Bank of Springfield Center. The OSFM will be following the latest COVID-19 guidance set in the Restore Illinois Plan to help maintain the health and safety of those attending the events.

If you would like to participate in the fire truck muster please arrive between 8 AM and 9 AM at 2nd and Monroe in Springfield. You are asked to approach from the west.



Illinois State Fair



The 2021 Illinois State Fair got off to a soggy start causing the Twilight Parade to be cancelled. The rest of the fair was a success and the OSFM thanks Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts, Illinois Professional Firefighters Association, International Association of Arson Investigators Illinois Chapter, Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, MABAS, Chicago Fire Department, Illinois Fire Service Institute, Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors, Associated Fire Fighters Association, Illinois Fire Inspectors Association and the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts, along with the staff from our agency for making the fire safety tent a success again this year.

We are looking forward to the 2022 Illinois State Fair and seeing everyone next year at the fire safety tent!



Illinois State Fair



Left to Right: Fire Marshal Perez, Norman and Lt. Gov Stratton



DuQuoin State Fair Parade



Members from the OSFM participated in the DuQuoin State Fair Twilight Parade! Streets were lined with people and numerous bags of candy were emptied. A great time was had by all!



DuQuoin Waterball Event

An OSFM favorite tradition, Waterball was held on Sunday, August 29th during the DuQuoin State Fair! Teams from different fire departments across southern Illinois come together for a day of fellowship and to battle it out for bragging rights in Tabletop, 3-firefighter Hose Hookup and Wild Hose Competition.

Members from the OSFM also battle for bragging rights. This year, a Rookie, Amanda Yingling took home the prize during the tabletop water fight!

A big shout out to Dale Bandy from Carbondale Township Fire Department for organizing the event each year.

Thanks to all who participated, and we look forward to being back next year!



DuQuoin Waterball Winners



1st Place Tabletop Water Fight
Richie Tuthill - Vergennes FD



2nd Place Tabletop Water Fight
Dwight Tuthill - Vergennes FD



3rd Place Tabletop Water Fight
Dale Bandy - Carbondale Township



1st Place Wild Hose
Brian Glover- Williamson County



2nd Place Wild Hose
Dwight Tuthill- Vergennes



3rd Place Wild Hose
Gunnar Galloway- Williamson Co.



1st Place 3-FF Hose Hook-Up
Brian Glover- Williamson County



2nd Place 3-FF Hose Hook-Up
Grady Powell - Williamson County



3rd Place 3-FF Hose Hook-Up
Gunnar Galloway- Williamson Co.



OSFM 1st Place Tabletop Water Fight
Amanda Yingling
5th Overall in Wild Hose



Left to Right: Debbie Wickenhauser, Emily Kaylor, Kensie Proctor and Amanda Yingling



Left to Right: Ronnie Wickenhauser & Terry Ooms



Vector Solutions Update

NEW TRAINING TRACKING TOOL FOR ALL ILLINOIS FIREFIGHTERS... COMING SOON!



The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) will be providing free access to fire related task books that will help your department simplify your training tracking and recertification process. In addition to simplifying your training tracking, OSFM will use this tool to provide communications to departments and firefighters statewide, including information on the latest certification and recertification requirements, the most current news from OSFM, and additional materials as needed!

This comparison shows what you will receive with the free Regional Platform vs purchasing a paid Premier Platform. Departments that have or will be purchasing a Premier Platform will be required to reach out with their request to receive the additional free resources from the state directly in their site.

	REGIONAL Platform	PREMIUM Platform
 Access to more than 34 fire Recertification Task Books Set of pre-built custom task books with NFPA activities for recording hands-on training.	✓	✓
 Automated Certification Submission When the task books are completed, the OSFM will be able to verify all training, eliminating the need to manually submit your training records.	✓	✓
 State Approved NFPA Training Resources Custom built fire training resources will be at your fingertips to help guide your recertification training needs.	✓	✓
 Full Online Training Library Access to Vector Solutions TargetSolutions Edition's industry-leading catalog of more than 500 hours of training for fire departments, including the entire catalog of courses written to NFPA codes and standards; plus wildland fire training, OSHA, driver safety, harassment, and much more.		✓
 The ISO Training Tracker The ultimate technology for tracking and reporting ISO training hours.		✓
 Community Resources An invaluable feature inside the Vector Solutions TargetSolutions Edition platform that works like a search engine with an assortment of shared training content and tools accessible anytime, anywhere.		✓
 Custom Credentials Ability to create your own credentials to track licenses and create training plans. *Additional ability to add your own training to the State Provided Recertification Task Books to meet the requirements.		✓
 Activities / Test Builder Ability to create your own content and tests to apply toward your department's unique training needs.		✓

Life Safety Code Training

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is excited to partner with the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) by providing online learning opportunities. The courses provided by OSFM are designed to educate and provide a resource for firefighters across the state.

Under this joint venture, departments and firefighters can easily access OSFM programing as well as have access to additional coursework and resources through IFSI.

OSFM and IFSI have made it a goal to offer as many online firefighting and EMS courses as possible. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the courses currently being offered on the IFSI Virtual Campus.

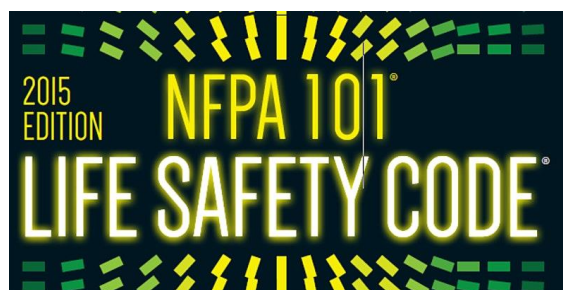
Some of the online and on-demand OSFM programing are reference tools only, so the user will not receive a grade. Also, some programs are not for credit, so participants will not receive an IFSI certificate of attendance.

It is up to your organization's training program to decide if CEUs are earned and documented when accessing the coursework. An on-demand classroom provides 6-month open access.

The OSFM content was developed by OSFM subject matter experts. If you have any questions specific to the content of the reference material, please contact the [Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal](#).

The OSFM online on-demand courses has Knowledge Checks. The purpose of Knowledge Checks is to give the user an idea of how well he or she understands the materials. The Knowledge Checks are ungraded and allow Learning Objectives to be self-assessed by each user.

<https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/content/courses/programs/detail/?program=153>



IFSI Minute

AN UPDATE FROM THE ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

The fall training season has kicked off and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) is ready to offer a complete line-up of training opportunities throughout the state.



BASIC OPERATIONS FIREFIGHTER BLENDED:

The fall delivery of Basic Operations Firefighter Blended kicked off weekend training sessions in August. Nearly sixty-five students are enrolled at the four training locations this fall. During the 18-week program, students will complete coursework through instructor supported online classrooms and attend nine in person, hands-on weekend practical sessions. This program is available to Illinois students and departments at no-cost. Funding is supported by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.



More information:
FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU

STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE TRAINING FACILITY AND PROPS:

Since late 2018, modifications and significant upgrades have been taking place on the IFSI structural collapse training props. These upgrades include the complete overhaul, design, and rebuild of the operations and technician level structures. The work done by the Structural Collapse Instructional Team and IFSI Operations Staff is impressive, and we look forward to utilizing all the realistic training elements in course deliveries this fall. Our team will be debuting the assets in upcoming social media posts, including an expected live broadcast in the Facebook Forum. Visit the IFSI Facebook page for details: facebook.com/fsi.illinois.edu

Seats are still available in fall classes: October 11 – 15, 2021 or October 25 – 29, 2021.



IFSI Minute

TEAM IFSI:

A reminder that TEAM IFSI resources remain available to Illinois departments and students. TEAM IFSI is a no cost, formal training program that connects local departments with presentations, skill sheets, drill plans, and supporting video materials. These resources support the delivery of quality and effective training.



130th ANNUAL DOWN AND DIRTY FIREFIGHTING WEEKEND:

Registration is open for the Illinois Firefighters Association Down and Dirty Firefighting weekend. This annual event will be hosted on the IFSI training grounds – Champaign. Visit the IFSI or IFA websites for complete event and registration details.



SAVE THE DATE:

Preparations are already underway for the 2022 Winter Fire School. Save the date for this annual training event.



"Be Alarmed!" Press Event Chicago Heights



The OSFM joined members from the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance, Chicago Heights Fire Department and South Chicago Heights Fire Department to raise awareness about the importance of having working smoke alarms in home.

"Be Alarmed!" is a fire safety education and smoke alarm installation program administered cooperatively between the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance (IFSA) and the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The program distributes fire safety education materials and 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms to fire departments in the state of Illinois. The fire departments then deliver the education while installing smoke alarms in at-risk homes within their communities. Both the educational materials and smoke alarms are provided at no cost as a result of funding from both the IFSA and OSFM.

The program was developed to educate Illinois residents on the dangers of fire in the home and how to prevent fires from occurring in the home, as well as to ensure there are working smoke alarms properly installed in homes. By providing 10-year concealed battery smoke alarms, it ensures that the power source cannot be removed from the unit and, if properly maintained, will last the life of the device.

The program seeks to:

- 1) Educate residents, young and old, on home fire safety and prevention methods,
- 2) Reduce the number of fire-related injuries,
- 3) Reduce the number of fire-related deaths, and
- 4) Identify the reason for non-functioning smoke alarms in homes across the state.



Smoke Alarm Safety

Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety



Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm? What does it all mean? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family! Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and knows how to respond. Learn the sounds of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms by checking the user guide or search the brand and model online.

What is your alarm telling you?

SMOKE ALARMS

- A continued set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call **9-1-1**, and stay out.
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARMS

- A continuous set of four loud beeps—beep, beep, beep, beep—means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call **9-1-1** and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- CO alarms also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it’s time to get a new CO alarm.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

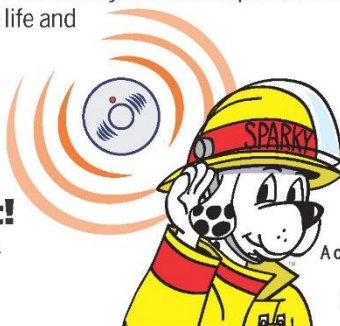
Make sure your smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of everyone in your home, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

Some tips:

- ✓ Install a bedside alert device that responds to the sound of the smoke and CO alarms. Use of a low frequency alarm can also wake a sleeping person with mild to severe hearing loss.
- ✓ Sleep with your mobility device, glasses, and phone close to your bed.
- ✓ Keep pathways like hallways lit with night lights and free from clutter to make sure everyone can get out safely.

Hear a Beep, Get On Your Feet!

Get out and stay out! Call 9-1-1 from outside.



Hear a Chirp, Make a Change!

A chirping alarm needs attention. Replace the batteries or the entire unit if it's over 10 years old. If you don't remember how old the unit is, replace it!



**FIRE
PREVENTION
WEEK™**

Your Logo

For fire safety tips, visit [firepreventionweek.org](https://www.firepreventionweek.org) and [sparky.org](https://www.sparky.org)
Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA. ©2021 National Fire Protection Association®

Illinois Fire Department COVID Relief Grant Assessors



Left to Right: John Winters, Al Yancey, Greg Earle, Andrea Klees, Les Albert, Ronnie Wickenhauser, and Jim Grady

A group of Illinois Fire Department COVID Grant Assessors meet in Springfield on August 31st to review applications submitted for the one-time grant opportunity. The OSFM thanks these hard-working individuals for taking the time to review the applications.

Grant recipients are expected to receive awards by October 2021.

A total of \$1,000,000 will be available to assist approximately 80 impacted fire departments that operate in diverse communities throughout the state. Under this one-time grant opportunity, eligible Illinois fire departments could receive up to \$15,000 in order to make up for lost donation revenues stemming from their inability to host local fundraising events during 2020. These fundraising events pay for necessities like fuel for fire trucks, utilities, and insurance.



OSFM DEI Working Group

OSFM DEI efforts continued throughout the month of August as we celebrated Black Women's Equal Pay Day (August 13th) and Women's Equality Day (August 26th).

The DEI Working Group (employee peer group) met on August 5, 2021. Meeting agenda items included updates relating to agency DEI marketing efforts and our agency DEI Mission Statement. We also facilitated an invigorating "A walk in her shoes" discussion regarding acceptance, access, and inclusion within the workplace from a female perspective.

The OSFM remains a strong supporter of all women's human and civil rights. We will continue to advocate for their increased access to professional opportunities and resources within the Illinois fire service, as well as their meaningful inclusion in public safety leadership.

The next OSFM Employee DEI Working Group meeting is scheduled for: September 2, 2021 at 2:00 PM. Any OSFM staff member who desires to serve on the working group (or who would simply like to attend a meeting as a guest) should contact Deputy Director Armstead or HR Director Schrage.

We plan to publish the fall 2021 edition of our DEI External Partner Outreach document in early September. This document contains a treasure trove of DEI centric information and resources. Here is a link to an article about the benefits of bringing diversity into the fire service: <https://www.columbiasouthern.edu/blog/april-2021/diversity-in-the-fire-service>

Please reach out to us if you are one of our fire service partners and need assistance with starting your own DEI initiative.

Diversity = Acceptance of all

Equity = Access for all

Inclusion = Meaningful participation by all



IFSA Fire Prevention Week Luncheon

THE ILLINOIS FIRE SAFETY ALLIANCE'S FIRE PREVENTION WEEK LUNCHEON

PRESENTED BY NORTHERN ILLINOIS FIRE SPRINKLER ADVISORY BOARD



Join hundreds of members from the fire service and beyond at the 80th annual Fire Prevention Week Luncheon, hosted by the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance.

The Fire Prevention Week Luncheon will include various fire service association updates, gourmet lunch, and networking opportunities. The event also highlights and honors those who have gone above and beyond in fire safety and burn prevention, as each year the IFSA receives nominations and presents awards for various categories.

ABOUT THIS YEAR'S PRESENTATION:

The pandemic has constrained many of Illinois' fire service associations from conducting "normal" business across the state for the past 18 months. As Illinois continues to open up, many of these groups are beginning to plan their annually scheduled events. This year's Fire Prevention Week Luncheon will provide the platform for each of the 14 members of the Illinois Fire Services Association to provide attendees with a brief update on their organization and what's to come.

MEMBERS OF THE ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICES ASSOCIATION:

Associated Firefighters of Illinois, City of Chicago Fire Department, Illinois Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts, Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, Illinois Fire Inspectors Association, Illinois Fire Safety Alliance, Illinois Fire Service Institute, Illinois Firefighters Association, Illinois Professional Firefighters Association, Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors, Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts, and Office of the State Fire Marshal. To learn more about the IL Fire Services Assoc., visit illinoisfireservices.org.

Sponsors:



Date | Time: Thursday, October 7, 2021 | 10:00am - 1:30pm

Location: Bobak's Signature Events
6440 Double Eagle Drive
Woodridge, IL 60517

Registration: \$40.00/person (\$400/table of 10)
Register online at www.IFSA.org/FPWL
or see reverse side



IFSA Fire Prevention Week Luncheon



The Illinois Fire Safety Alliance's Fire Prevention Week Luncheon

presented by Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board

Thursday, October 7, 2021 | 10:00am-1:30pm

Dept./Org. _____

Name(s): _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Total Attendees _____ @ \$40.00/Attendee = Total Due \$ _____

*Only registrations with a group of 10 attendees will receive reserved-seating.
Early arrival is suggested as all other attendees are subject to open-seating.*

Presented by



Partners in Prevention



- ◆ To register, visit www.IFSA.org/FPWL, complete and fax this form to the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance at (847) 390-0920, scan and email to ifsa@ifsa.org, or mail to IFSA 426 W. Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect, IL 60056.
- ◆ Registration is required by September 30, 2021.
- ◆ The Fire Prevention Week Luncheon will take place at Bobak's Signature Events, located at 6440 Double Eagle Drive, Woodridge, Illinois.
- ◆ Only registrations with a group of 10 attendees will receive reserved-seating (10 seats/table). Early arrival is suggested as all other registrations are subject to open-seating.
- ◆ Cancellations must be made by emailing the IFSA office at ifsa@ifsa.org.
- ◆ Luncheon cancellations must be received no later than September 30, 2021 in order to receive a full refund. Cancellations received after September 30, 2021 will be entitled to a 50% refund. If notice of cancellation is not received prior to October 7, 2021, the attendee(s) will be assessed the entire luncheon fee.
- ◆ Do you know someone who is deserving of a Fire Prevention Week Luncheon award? Visit www.IFSA.org to complete and submit a nomination form. Nominations can be submitted at any time, but must be received by the IFSA no later than August 15th to be considered for this year's program.

The Illinois Fire Safety Alliance is dedicated to fire safety, burn prevention, and supporting burn survivors

Back to School Safety



Safety Checklist

Back to School

Transportation Safety

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions. Here are some tips to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walking to school

- ✓ **Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child**
 - Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic
 - Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
 - Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections
 - Stay alert and avoid distracted walking

Riding a bicycle to school

- ✓ **Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child**
 - Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in single file
 - Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street
 - Stay alert and avoid distracted riding
 - Make sure your child always wears a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing

Riding the bus to school

- ✓ **Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them**
 - Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus
 - Teach your children to stand six feet (or 3 giant steps) away from the curb
 - If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other

Driving your child to school

- ✓ **Stay alert and avoid distracted driving**
 - Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure
 - Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street

School Safety

Many school-related injuries are completely preventable. Follow these steps to ensure your child's safety at school:

Preventing backpack-related injuries

- ✓ **Choose a backpack for your child carefully; it should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort**
 - Ask your child to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight on their shoulders
 - Don't overstuff a backpack; it should weigh no more than 5 to 10 percent of your child's body weight
 - Rolling backpacks should be used cautiously since they can create a trip hazard in crowded school hallways

Preventing playground-related injuries

- ✓ **To reduce strangulation hazards on playgrounds, have your child leave necklaces and jackets with drawstrings at home**



Eliminating Preventable Deaths®

Stop on Red Week



August 1st-7th was National Stop on Red Week. This campaign raises awareness about the importance of obeying traffic signals.

Between 2008 and 2019, an estimated 9,227 people were killed in crashes related to red-light running according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). In 2019, 846 people were killed and an estimated 143,000 were injured in crashes involving red-light running. IIHS found that about half of red-light running crash deaths involve pedestrians, cyclists and occupants in vehicles struck by the red-light runners.

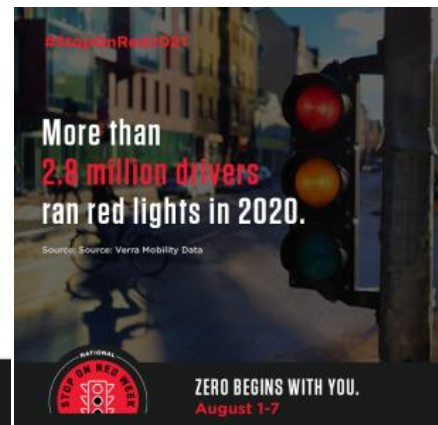
More than 2.8 Million drivers ran red lights in 2020. Friday was the deadliest day for red light running.

It's time to put a stop to this and reverse this trend.

#StopOnRed2021

In 2020, **Friday** was the deadliest day for red-light running, with more than **445K+ violations** in ONE day.

Source: 2020 Verra Mobility Data



TOP 10 REASONS TO STOP ON RED



1. It is 100% preventable. **Just STOP ON RED.**
2. In 2019, **846 people died** and **143,000 were injured** due to red-light running.
3. In 2020, the U.S. witnessed the largest number of motor vehicle deaths since 1924.
4. **One in three Americans** know someone who has been injured or killed in a red-light running crash.
5. Between 2008-2019, an estimated **9,227 people were killed** in red-light running related crashes.
6. On average, **two people died each day** in red-light running-related crashes in the U.S. in 2019.
7. Over half of the deaths in red-light running crashes are pedestrians, bicyclists and occupants in vehicles other than the vehicle running the red light.
8. The most common type of urban crashes involve drivers who run red lights, stop signs and other traffic controls.
9. **86% of AAA's 2019 surveyed drivers** say it is extremely dangerous to speed through red lights.
10. Red-light running can be fatal.

National Stop On Red Week: AUG 1-7
#StopOnRed2021

Sources:
2 & 8) IIHS 3) NSC 4) US Dept of Transportation
5 & 6) NHTSA 7 & 9) AAA

Shout Outs/Kudos



Left to Right: OSFM Chief of Operations Dale Simpson and Fire Prevention Inspector Chris Cole

The OSFM welcomed our newest Fire Prevention Inspector Chris Cole to the agency. Chris comes to the OSFM from the Springfield Fire Department where he served for 21 years before he retired. Welcome Chris! We are excited to have you as part of our team!



Cheryle Kaufman, OSFM FOIA Clerk

Good Morning Cheryle,

Just a heads up, I've been doing environmental reports since 1990, you just broke the record by far of FOIA response time by governmental agency! If there were a FOIA Olympics, you'd totally win the Gold medal!

Meredith



Kids' Corner



SMOKE ALARM Safety Sheet

Families: Smoke alarms save lives. Make sure the smoke alarms in your home are working. Hang up this handy chart to remind you to test your smoke alarms every month.

MONTH	TESTED SMOKE ALARMS	SMOKE ALARMS WORKED
OCTOBER 		
NOVEMBER 		
DECEMBER 		
JANUARY 		
FEBRUARY 		
MARCH 		
APRIL 		
MAY 		
JUNE 		
JULY 		
AUGUST 		
SEPTEMBER 		

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